

REMARKS

The above-referenced patent application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action referenced above. Reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 are pending in the application. Claim 17 has been amended. The amendment is fully supported by the original disclosure. No new matter has been introduced.

Allowable subject matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-16 and 21-31 are in condition for allowance.

The Assignee thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-16 and 21-31.

Claim objections

Claims 17-20 has been rejected for lacking antecedent basis for the term "the analog/digital converter" in claim 17.

In response, Assignee has amended claim 17 to replace "the optical sensor and the analog/digital converter." with "an optical sensor and an analog/digital converter." Accordingly, Assignee submits that claim 17 as amended is in condition for allowance. Likewise, claims 18-20 are similarly in condition for allowance due at least to their dependence on claim 17.

It is noted that the Assignee's failure to comment directly upon any of the positions asserted by the Examiner in the office action does not indicate agreement or acquiescence with those asserted positions.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, consideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney, James J. Lynch, at (503) 439-6500 if there remains any issue with allowance.

Additional fees

Any fees or extensions of time believed to be due in connection with this amendment are enclosed herein; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 50-3703.

Respectfully submitted,
Attorney for Assignee

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